

Appl. No. : 09/725,667
Filed : November 29, 2000

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, the abstract has been amended to comply with the 150-word limit, and to remove the work "disclosed." In addition, Claims 1-18 have been replaced with Claims 19-44. No new matter has been added.

In response to the obviousness rejection over Mann et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,589) and Schneider (U.S. Patent No. 6,338,082), Applicant is submitting herewith the sworn Declaration of Barry Fellman, the sole inventor in the present application. As evidenced by this Declaration, Mr. Fellman reduced to practice the invention, as set forth in each of the independent claims as amended herein, no later than January of 1999, and thus prior to the effective date of either the Mann et al patent or the Schneider patent. The Mann et al and Schneider patents therefore are not "prior art" to these claims.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicant submits that Mann et al and Schneider fail to disclose or suggest many of the important features of Applicant's preferred embodiment. For example, neither reference suggests displaying the results of a multiple-name query in a table which indicates the availability of each name in conjunction with each of multiple TLD extensions (see Figure 6 of the present application). The use of such a table allows the user to quickly determine and analyze the availability of each name within each of multiple top level domains.

In connection with this important feature, the Examiner takes the position that Schneider teaches displaying query results for a plurality of names within a table, citing Figure 5B. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The table shown in Figure 5B of Schneider is an internal database table listing registrars capable of providing registration services to register a domain name. See col. 14, lines 1-20 of Schneider. Nothing in Schneider suggests that this table contains the results of a query submitted by a user, or that the table is even displayed to the user.

Mann et al and Schneider also fail to suggest a system in which the user can select multiple available domain names from the query results display to formulate a registration request (see Figure 8 of the present application). An important benefit of this feature is that it allows the user to efficiently formulate a single request to register multiple domain names. In contrast, a user of the Mann et al system who wishes to register multiple available names would apparently have to request registration of each name separately. This is evident from the web

page shown in Figure 5D of Mann et al, in which a separate "Register Now" link is provided for each available domain name. Schneider similarly discloses requesting registration of only one domain name at a time (see col. 12, line 57 to col. 13, line 6).

Mann et al and Schneider also fail to suggest a system in which the availability of each name specified by the user is automatically checked for each of multiple TLD extensions. In this regard, Figures 5A and 5D of Mann et al suggest that the availability search is limited to a single TLD extension. In Schneider, the availability search is apparently limited to only a single domain name, and thus to a single TLD extension.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that each independent claim, as amended herein, recites one or more features that is/are not disclosed or suggested by Mann et al and Schneider. For example, with respect to independent **Claim 19**, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest "generating and returning to the user a query results display which includes a table showing the availability of each name in conjunction with each of the plurality of TLD extensions, wherein the table is presented in conjunction with a user option to select one or more available name-TLD extension combinations ("domain names") to formulate a registration request, whereby the user can formulate a single request to register a plurality of domain names."

With respect to independent **Claim 26**, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest "generating and returning to the user a query results page which includes a table indicating the availability of each name in conjunction with each TLD extension, wherein the table is displayed in conjunction with a selection mechanism for allowing the user to select one or more available domain names for registration to formulate a registration request, such that the user can request registration of multiple domain names with a single registration request."

With respect to independent **Claim 34**, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest "a server which is responsive to submission from the web page of a set of multiple names by at least (a) determining registration availability of each of the names in combination with each of a set of multiple Top Level Domain (TLD) extensions, such that the user need not specify the TLD extensions, and (b) generating a query results display indicating, for each combination of a name and a TLD extension, whether the combination is available for registration, wherein the query results display provides a user option to generate a request to register one or more of the

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combinations that are available, such that the user may request registration of multiple domain names in a single request.”

With respect to independent **Claim 39**, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest “displaying a query results table showing, for each of multiple names specified by a user, the availability of multiple domain names for registration, wherein each domain name is derived from one of the user specified multiple names combined with one of multiple TLD extensions.” In addition, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest “for each of the multiple domain names available for registration, providing a selection mechanism within the query results table to permit the selection of one or more available domain names for registration, to thereby enable the user to formulate a request to register the one or more available domain names using the query results table.”

With respect to independent **Claim 43**, Mann et al and Schneider do not disclose or suggest “looking up an availability status of the name in combination with each of multiple Top Level Domain (TLD) extensions not specified by the user,” and “displaying query results for the name in a table showing the availability of the name as a SLD in conjunction with each TLD extension.”

In view of these and other distinctions recited throughout the claims, Applicant submits that Claims 19-44 are patentably distinct from Mann et al and Schneider.

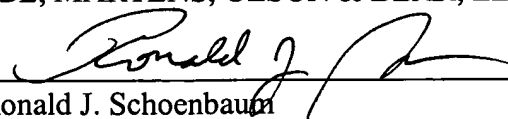
For the foregoing reasons, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections, and allow the present application.

If any issues remain which can potentially be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record at his direct dial number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 12-5-03

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